

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/874,271

Examiner

Wilbert L. Starks, Jr.

Applicant(s)

FORTIN ET AL.

Art Unit

2121

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed 05 June 2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-84.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) •
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2 •
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Reasons For Allowance

1. Claims 1-84 are allowed.

2. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The cited prior art taken alone or in combination fails to teach the claimed invention of high performance location management, as claimed by Applicant.

Specifically, independent claims 1, 23, 44, 62, and 76 disclose "each member of the set identifies a distinct classification of a geographical area and its geographical boundaries."

3. The closest prior art of Davies (U.S. Patent Number 6,262,741; dated 17 July 2001; class 345; subclass 423) teaches tiling of object-based geographic information system (GIS) but fails to teach or suggest "each member of the set identifies a distinct classification of a geographical area and its geographical boundaries." To the extent that this feature is not found in the prior art cited by Examiner, independent claims 1, 23, 44, 62, and 76 are held to be allowable over the prior art of record.

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4. Independent claims 68, 80, and 84 disclose "determining a minimum enclosing area in the coordinate system for the point". The closest prior art of Davies teaches tiling of object-based geographic information system (GIS) but fails to teach or suggest "determining a minimum enclosing area in the coordinate system for the point". To the extent that this feature is not found in the prior art cited by Examiner, independent claims 68 and 80 are held to be allowable over the prior art of record.

5. Independent claims 74 and 75 disclose "compressing the converted geographic classification database and spatial index into a form capable of storage in the memory of a computer system". The closest prior art of Davies teaches tiling of object-based geographic information system (GIS) but fails to teach or suggest "compressing the converted geographic classification database and spatial index into a form capable of storage in the memory of a computer system". To the extent that this feature is not found in the prior art cited by Examiner, independent claims 74 and 75 are held to be allowable over the prior art of record.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

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7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Specifically,

- A. Davies (U.S. Patent Number 6,262,741; dated 17 July 2001; class 345; subclass 423) discloses tiling of object-based geographic information system (GIS).
- B. Davies (U.S. Patent Number 6,247,019; dated 12 June 2001; class 707; subclass 103 R) discloses an object-based geographic information system (GIS).
- C. Bowman-Amuah (U.S. Patent Number 6,081,518; dated 27 June 2000; class 370; subclass 352) discloses a system, method and article of manufacture for cross-location registration in a communication system architecture.
- D. Shaffer, et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,907,608; dated 25 May 1999; class 379; subclass 211.02) discloses an automatic routing and information system for telephonic services.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Wilbert L. Starks, Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 305-0027.

Alternatively, inquiries may be directed to the following:

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S. P. E. Anthony Knight (703) 308-3179

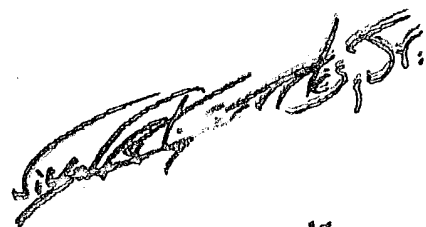
After-final (FAX) (703) 746-7238

Official (FAX) (703) 746-7239

Non-Official/Draft (FAX) (703) 746-7240

WLS

29 September 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, slanted upwards to the right. The signature appears to read "Wilbert L. Starks, Jr." with a stylized, cursive script.

Wilbert L. Starks, Jr.
Primary Examiner
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